

CITY OF SHREWSBURY BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Work Session
March 13th, 2012

A Board of Aldermen Work Session was held at 6:00 p.m. this 13th day of March, 2012 in the Aldermanic Conference Room of the Shrewsbury City Center.

There were present:

Mayor.....	Felicity Buckley
Alderman	Elmer Kauffmann
Alderwoman	Chris Gorman
Alderman.....	Sam Scherer
Alderman.....	Ed Kopff
Alderwoman	Dee Wiecher

There were not present:

Alderman	Mike Travaglini
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There were also present:

Director of Administration	Jonathan D. Greever
City Attorney	Michael K. Daming
Director of Parks	Chris Buck
Police Chief.....	Jeff Keller
Fire Chief	Bill Fox
Street Superintendent.....	Tony Wagner

Roll Call

Mayor Buckley opened the meeting and Director Greever commenced with the roll call. A quorum was present.

Discussion and review of potential ordinance pertaining to the domestic raising of chickens.

The Mayor stated that the next item on the agenda was the discussion and review of a potential ordinance pertaining to the domestic raising of chickens. She went on to state that the reason for the work session this evening was to provide the Board an opportunity to propose modifications to Bill No. 2664, in order for the City to conduct the appropriate readings and vote by the end of March.

Mayor Buckley stated that she would begin this discussion by asking why this potential ordinance to raise domestic chickens required the participating resident to formally notify all other residents within 100 foot radius of the site where the chickens would be raised. The Mayor asked this question because it seemed unnecessary to her to treat this ordinance as a special permit since standard operation would not require a variance. Upon general consensus from the Board, the radius notification requirement was removed.

City Attorney Michael Daming then took the floor and stated that, as a point of order, the aforementioned proposed change would remove any discretion for the city clerk or the city clerk's designee. He further stated that by including this notification requirement within the ordinance the city clerk would have had a certain

level of discretion in terms of granting this permit, but by removing the notification process all discretion would be removed leaving only a mandatory issuance based upon meeting the requirements specified within the bill.

Alderman Kauffmann took the floor and stated that he wanted to modify the bill due to the prevalence of small lot sizes within the city. He stated that these modifications included reducing the maximum number of chickens one could raise on a 7,500 square foot lot to 3 chickens, with a provision for adding an additional chicken for each additional 2,500 square foot to a maximum cap of 5 chickens. Alderman Kauffmann also requested placement restriction modifications to include a side setback of 15 feet from the property line, a rear set back of 10 feet from the property line, and a minimum 12 foot setback from the resident's house. He also requested that the height restriction of the chicken coop be set at 4 feet. In closing, Alderman Kauffmann reminded the Board that an existing city ordinance only allowed for a maximum of two accessory buildings per lot. Therefore, if a request for a chicken coop would result in a third accessory building, the permit would be denied until one of the other accessory buildings was removed.

Mayor Buckley then stated that the reduction of the chicken coop height to 4 feet might make it more difficult to clean. However, she did agree that the location of the coop would be better served as outlined above by Alderman Kauffmann. She asked Alderman Kopff if the resident that had initiated the request for the domestic raising of chickens had expressed a preferred height requirement for the chicken coop.

Alderman Kopff responded that the resident had preferred a height of 6 feet due to maintenance considerations, but also indicated that he would be okay with 5 feet.

Mayor Buckley then gained general consensus from the Board to approve a maximum number of 5 chickens if expert opinion received from the University of Missouri Veterinarian School determined that this was an advisable number to domestically raise chickens to maintain the overall health of the flock.

For the record, Alderman Mike Travaglini entered the meeting at 5:18 p.m.

The Mayor then provided a quick overview to Alderman Travaglini on the above mentioned discussion.

Alderman Travaglini, upon hearing the update, proposed that the Board approve a maximum of 5 chickens without requiring consultation from the University of Missouri Veterinarian School.

The Mayor quickly polled the Board again and gained unanimous agreement to allow, without further consultation, a maximum of 5 chickens for any lot 7,500 square feet or greater.

The Mayor then advised that due to the modifications discussed and agreed upon, Bill No. 2664 would not be presented for consideration in that evening's Board of Aldermen regular meeting.

Old Business

None

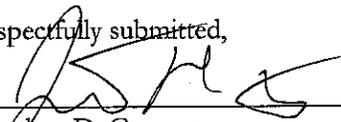
New Business

Mayor Buckley stated that the City's administrative department staff had prepared a banner presentation focusing on the City's centennial celebration and Route 66 initiatives for the upcoming Chamber of Commerce Meet and Greet. She quickly presented several of these items prepared for presentation.

Adjournment:

Alderman Travaglini made a motion to adjourn the work session. Alderman Kauffmann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed. The work session adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jonathan D. Greever,
Director of Administration/City Clerk

ATTEST:



Felicity Buckley,
Mayor